



Watt's Up



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Energy Star program a success!



Thanks to the Energy Star program and individual efforts, Americans saved a significant amount of energy, according to the latest Annual Report by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released in November. Greenhouse gas emissions were reduced by 38 million metric tons of carbon equivalent, which is comparable to taking more than 25 million cars off the road! Americans conserved more than 80 billion kilowatt hours and 10,000 megawatts of peak power, all of which could power 10 million homes in the United States!

The Energy Star Program is a joint effort of the Department of Energy (DOE) and EPA. More than 750 million Energy Star-labeled products have been purchased to date, and more than 1,600 builder partners have constructed more than 57,000 Energy Star-labeled homes, saving homeowners more than \$15 million in energy costs each year.

In 1992 the U.S. (EPA) introduced Energy Star as a voluntary labeling program designed to identify and promote energy-efficient products to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Computers and monitors were the first labeled products. Through 1995, EPA expanded the label to additional office equipment products and residential heating and cooling equipment. In 1996, EPA partnered with the U.S. Department of Energy for particular product categories.

The Energy Star label is now on major appliances, office equipment, lighting, consumer electronics, and more. The EPA has also extended the label to cover new homes and commercial and industrial buildings.

Energy Star has successfully delivered energy and cost savings across the country, saving businesses, organizations and consumers more than \$5 billion a year. Over the past decade, Energy Star has been a

driving force behind the more widespread use of such technological innovations as LED traffic lights, efficient fluorescent lighting, power management systems for office equipment, and low standby energy use.

Energy Star works with more than 250 education partners, including colleges and universities, to help promote knowledge and achieve energy efficiency. Facilities and Auxiliaries has been an Energy Star partner for over a year. As part of our energy conservation efforts, Facilities Management, in conjunction with Vestar, has set up an Energy Star showcase room in Bromley Hall.

The showcase room in Bromley was set up this summer during pre-college and was open for parents and students to tour. The residents of the room, Sara Bisker and Lisa Shuster, volunteered to be part of the experiment which entailed equipping their room with Energy Star products such as televisions, DVD players and lighting fixtures (they also have desk chairs made from recycled materials!). These products were donated by manufacturers who work with Energy Star to introduce and promote their energy-efficient products.

The electricity use for the Energy Star products is being monitored and will be compared with regular appliances to determine the savings near the end of winter quarter. The results will be used to decide whether to expand the program to include additional residence hall rooms.

Information on Energy Star courtesy of <http://www.energystar.gov/default.shtml>

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Don't let your energy go up in smoke



A roaring fire in your fireplace can exhaust as much as 24,000 cubic feet of air per hour. This air must be replaced with cold air from outside, which is warmed by your heating system and then exhausted through your chimney. Minimize your losses by following these tips:

- Keep the fireplace damper closed unless a fire is going.
- When using the fireplace, open dampers in the bottom of the firebox (if provided) or open the nearest window slightly—approximately one inch—and close doors leading into the room.
- Lower the thermostat setting to between 50-55 degrees.
- Install tempered glass doors and a heat-air exchange system that blows warmed air back into the room.
- If you never use your fireplace, plug and seal the chimney flue.

Courtesy of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy



Recycling Word Find

Courtesy of earthcycle.org



Search for some of the natural resources that we save when recycling!
oil, sand, ore, trees, water, soil

S	W	A	T	E	R
L	I	O	S	T	L
D	O	A	R	A	O
N	I	E	E	E	L
A	E	P	T	R	I
S	R	O	A	L	O

Watt's Up

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Recycle old technology after the holidays

Did a new PC, PDA or printer pop into your home as a holiday present? Before you settle into enjoying your new technology, take a minute to think about what will happen to the old. According to study by the National Safety Council's Environmental Health Center, some 100 million PCs, monitors, and TVs are expected to become obsolete annually by 2005 in the United States alone.

H. Scott Matthews, research director for the Green Design Initiative at Carnegie Mellon University, says that his organization's research projects that 50 million old computers are expected to be land filled by 2005—a smaller number, but not a lesser problem. "Here at the Green Design Initiative, we're concerned that most will go to landfills," Matthews says. "Remember that the environment is the ultimate sink."

When PCs, laptops, monitors, printers, cell phones and televisions go to landfills, it's a messy environmental proposition. Other hazardous materials in technology equipment include cadmium and mercury, among others.

A new effort from IBM provides an easy way to recycle high-tech trash. IBM announced a technology-recycling program specifically aimed at individual consumers and small business owners. For \$29.99, which includes shipping, IBM will take PC parts and machines from any maker and either recycle them safely or get useable equipment into the hands of a non-profit organization that can use it. Information on the PC Recycling Service is available at 1-888-746-7426 or at the IBM Web site.

Useable equipment will be refurbished and donated to Gifts in Kind International, which contributes to a network of over 50,000 nonprofit organizations in neighborhoods throughout the world. Non-useable PCs will be disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner.

Make sure to contact your PC company to find out what recycling incentives they offer or visit the National Recycling Coalition website at <http://www.nrc-recycle.org/resources/electronics/> for ways to dispose of your PC and other electronics without harming the environment.

Adapted from www.CNN.com



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